

**In the Claims:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

12. (Amended) A method as recited in Claim 8, further comprising the step of [distributed] distributing said dielectric material on the electrified wire at a location proximate to the structure.

15. (Amended) A method for resisting electrical shorts caused by an animal contacting an electrified wire and another object, comprising the steps of:

assembling a liquefied dielectric material and a device for distributing said liquefied dielectric material;

distributing said dielectric material on a [selection] selected portion of the wire; and

continuing to distribute said dielectric material on the wire until a selected dielectric material thickness is achieved.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.121 a “clean copy” of pending Claims 1 - 15 follows:

37 C.F.R. 1.121  
CLEAN VERSION OF ALL PENDING CLAIMS

1. A method for resisting electrical shorts caused by an animal contacting an electrified wire and a structure supporting the wire, comprising the steps of:
  - assembling a sprayable dielectric material and a material sprayer;
  - spraying said dielectric material on the structure at a location proximate to the electrified wire; and
  - continuing to spray dielectric material on the structure until a selected dielectric material thickness is achieved.
2. A method as recited in Claim 1, further comprising the step of selecting a dielectric material having sprayable properties.
3. A method as recited in Claim 1, further comprising the step of evaluating the difference in electric potential between the electrified wire and the structure before said dielectric material is sprayed on the structure.
4. A method as recited in Claim 1, further comprising the step of selecting the thickness of a dielectric material to provide a desired dielectric insulating capability.
5. A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein said dielectric material is sprayed on the structure before the structure is installed to support the electrified wire.
6. A method as recited in Claim 1, further comprising the step of spraying said dielectric material on the electrified wire at a location proximate to the structure.
7. A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein said dielectric material is sprayed on the wire before the wire is supported by the structure and before the wire is electrified.

8. A method for resisting electrical shorts caused by an animal contacting an electrified wire and a structure supporting the wire, comprising the steps of:

assembling a liquefied dielectric material and a device for distributing said liquefied dielectric material;

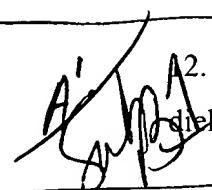
distributing said dielectric material on the structure at a location proximate to the electrified wire; and

continuing to distribute said dielectric material on the structure until a selected dielectric material thickness is achieved.

9. A method as recited in Claim 8, further comprising the step of selecting the thickness of a dielectric material to provide a desired dielectric insulating capability.

10. A method as recited in Claim 8, further comprising the step of evaluating the potential differential between the electrified wire and the structure.

11. A method as recited in Claim 8, wherein said dielectric material is distributed on the structure before the structure is installed to support the electrified wire.

 12. A method as recited in Claim 8, further comprising the step of distributing said dielectric material on the electrified wire at a location proximate to the structure.

13. A method as recited in Claim 12, wherein said dielectric material is distributed on the wire before the wire is supported by the structure and before the wire is electrified.

14. A method as recited in Claim 8, wherein said dielectric material is distributed on the structure without de-energizing the wire.

*15.*

A method for resisting electrical shorts caused by an animal contacting an electrified wire and another object, comprising the steps of:  
assembling a liquefied dielectric material and a device for distributing said liquefied dielectric material;  
distributing said dielectric material on a selected portion of the wire; and  
continuing to distribute said dielectric material on the wire until a selected dielectric material thickness is achieved.